

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Representative Pete Stark announced new federal funding for important initiatives to help Alameda County assist families at risk and address flood control needs. The spending measures are included in the Omnibus Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2003 that was signed by the President yesterday.

Rep. Stark secured \$400,000 to expand the Alameda County Social Service Agency's "Another Road to Safety" program, which works to stabilize families and reduce the number of children in foster care. Stark also secured \$200,000 to fund two Army Corps of Engineers studies to evaluate flooding problems along Laguna Creek in Fremont and Estudillo Canal in San Leandro.

In regard to \$400,000 appropriation for Alameda County's "Another Road to Safety," Rep Stark said:

"Another Road to Safety is an innovative partnership that works to prevent children from having to go into the foster care system," Stark said. "This \$400,000 appropriation will help this community-based program expand their efforts to help families achieve greater stability."

In regard to the \$200,000 appropriation for flood studies, Rep. Stark said:

"This \$200,000 appropriation will fund studies that may well promote future federal investment in flood protection efforts for Fremont and San Leandro," Rep. Stark said. "The cost of these improvements could be beyond Alameda County's ability to afford. Yet, they would protect approximately 700 residential properties in Fremont alone, with a potential \$1,000,000 annual savings in residents' flood insurance premiums. I'm grateful to have been able to secure this funding and look forward to continuing to help in this process."